

PATENT 1254-0229P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Akio MATSUDA et al.

Conf.: 6837

Appl. No.:

10/617,217

Group: 1631

Filed:

July 11, 2003

Examiner: BORIN, M.L.

For:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION BUT BEFORE FINAL REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE OR CONCURRENTLY WITH A RULE 1.114 RCE APPLICATION)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 22, 2005

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-1449(s), attached hereto.

II. COPIES (check at least one box)

- a. \boxtimes Copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are not included. Copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are included.
- b. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should already be in the PTO file. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

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a. DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The patents, publications, or other information listed on the attached PTO 1449 are in the English language and therefore, do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

C. MENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT

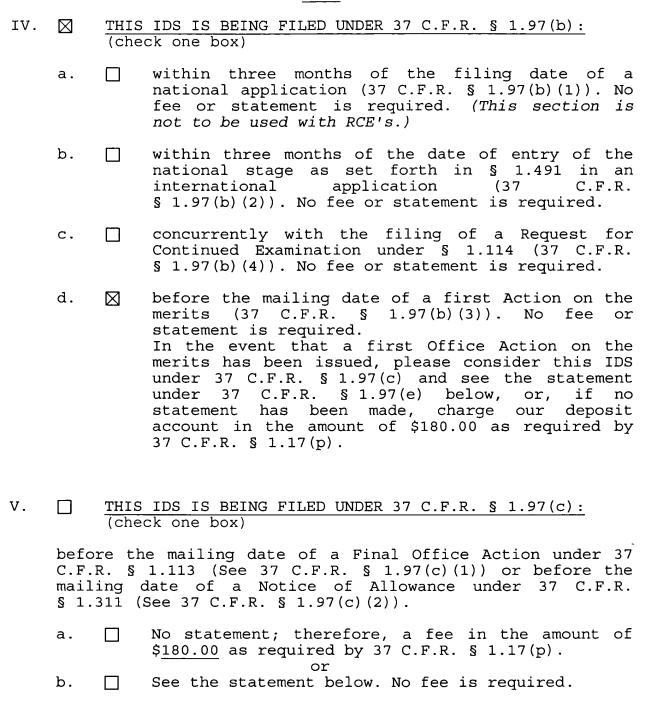
An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(III)(A)(3).

d. OTHER

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

FEES

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box) VI. The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the IDS was a. first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in а counterpart foreign application not more than 30 days prior to the filing of this IDS; or each item of information contained in the IDS was b. first cited in any communication from a foreign Office in counterpart а foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or c. no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS. d. Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign

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statement.

application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this

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| | | amour | nt r | required | by | posit Account No. 02-2448 in the 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for the aboves paper is submitted in triplicate. |
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| dete: | he is rmined PTO is | red l tha s req | ques t t ues | ted to his IDS ted to c | c ha on | any questions concerning this IDS, ontact the undersigned. If it is as been filed under the wrong rule, sider this IDS under the proper rule ee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448. |
| cred: | , con it an tional | curre y ove | ent, erpa s re | and fo yment to equired u | uti)] ind | nmissioner is hereby authorized in are replies, to charge payment or Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any Her 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; ime fees. |
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| | | | | | | BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP |
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| DRN/} 1254 | kdm -0229F |) | | | | P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, VA 22040-0747 (703) 205-8000 |
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APPLICATION NO. 10/617,217

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| | | | U.S | S. PATENT | DOCUMENTS | | | | |
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